

# REBELS WITH A CAUSE

Throughout the history of South Africa world events have allowed us to make our prior concern the solving of our problems, the furthering of our developments and the protecting of our way of life.

Now, however, the ideological pressures of the world force us to end this policy of self-concern as the awareness dawns that our future is dependent upon the future of the Continent as a whole.

Some wish to ignore this and to continue our traditional way of life. Others recognise the truth but falsely believe that strength of arms will keep foreign ideas at bay. I believe that patriotic South Africans must anticipate the movement of the times and match our national way of life and our degree of responsibility in the Continent to the needs of the hour.

Our generation is already playing a decisive role in setting the course for the Continent's future. In the Congo there are 14,000 teenagers between the ages of 14 and 18 giving the wrong lead as they terrorise their country under Pierre Mulele.

In this light I was grateful to attend a conference in the U.S.A. for TOMORROW'S AMERICA. . . .

"Rebellion is bred out of frustration."

Yet we face the greatest challenge and opportunity that history has given any generation. Nuclear war, massive inequality, division and dictatorship threaten the world. But at the same time, through scientific development, we could feed, house, clothe and give a satisfying purpose to every man and woman on the earth.

To meet this challenge in the United States of America, a group of young people who were deeply concerned with the future of their nation, decided to hold a conference entitled Tomorrow's America.

They wanted to learn if they didn't know already the problems which confront their nation — and the world — because of the lack of character, the slipping of moral standards. How scandals like the Bobby Baker incident, the increase in broken homes, juvenile delinquency endanger our society and how these affect their national and international affairs.

## Sacrifices

They decided that to answer this they needed to raise a force of young Americans more disciplined, more revolutionary, more dedicated to building a world that works than any Communist is to Communism or any materialist to his materialistic way of life. They are prepared to make sacrifices in their own lives so that their children do not inherit the same world that has been handed to them.

Against this background and in election year they invited during their summer vacation two thousand young people to the Conference on Mackinac Island, Michigan, for six weeks.

There were college and high-school students of every race,



● Delegates are filmed by television cameras as they question author Peter Howard.

By  
**GRAEME  
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● Conference delegates included the daughters of many film stars. Here are Cati Quinn (left), daughter of Anthony, and Kathie Green, daughter of the award-winning composer Johnny Green.

creed and background. Many were campus leaders. Many were distinguished in scholarship and athletics.

They included the sons and daughters of film stars, coal miners and industrialists; over a hundred Red Indian youth from the Southwest; Negro and white students from the South; a Florida delegation with Puerto Ricans, Peruvians and Cuban exiles; a delegation from California representing forty-eight high schools and universities; French and English-speaking Canadians.

Why did they come? Delegates said:

● "We students have sacrificed our summer jobs to come here because we felt this was the most



● Rajmohan Gandhi, grandson of the Mahatma, addresses the conference.

From the "Hotspots" of the world they invited men who know the situation intimately. For instance from Vietnam came the niece of the late President Diem. She said: "The Communists can take over the whole of Asia if it is not united with an ideology. Moral Re-Armament is the only answer for the problems of the Vietnamese people."

## Cuban Exile

Ramona Abella, Cuban exile from Miami, said she and thousands of others had joined the Cuban revolution "to end social injustices and corruption.

"Through our hate we were blind to what Castro was doing and excused the terror, death and violence as necessities in cleaning up the country," she said.

Miss Abella said she later worked against the Castro regime. She left the island three days before the Bay of Pigs invasion.

She added: "We Cubans still have not learned the lessons from the Communist takeover. We are more selfish and divided than before. We refuse to admit that our fingerprints are still in Cuba showing how we helped Communism to power."

She said that being at the Conference had made her aware of this. She also realized that the same problems of corruption, hate and injustice were in both the

Communist and the Western worlds.

"Youth wants a goal to live for," she said. "If America not only preached but lived the standards of Moral Re-Armament, the Latin Americans would respond. We Cubans in exile must accept this, too, before we can hope to return to our motherland and build a new nation there."

How do they intend to affect America?

They are going to use all their talents to do this. A regular part of the daily schedule was known as workshops which included the study of theatre and motion picture craft, journalism, radio, music, art, nursing, and secretarial work. Here they created the songs and plays that will speak to America.

## "Revolution"

As one delegate said: "Everyone in this country seems to be worried about the youth. Never before have a thousand young Americans met together like this to plan for the future of the country and the whole world and to speak in the name of freedom and democracy. We intend to raise a storm of new thinking and revolution right across this country in cities and states, in schools and colleges, and we believe people in every walk of life to listen to us."

. . . inspired by this I have decided to organize a conference in Basutoland in January 1965 for all those who sincerely want to tackle the practical issues we face in the Continent. The conference will provide a common meeting ground for students from many countries.

Daily Schools will be held to deal with topics such as: the economics of an African common market; the responsibility of the Press to propagate truth; the conservation of the soil to ensure food for all; the creation of stable homes as the foundation of national life.

Experts in many fields will address the conference, allowing adequate time for question and answer periods. It will not be our intention, however, simply to discuss the problem but to re-introduce the art of changing human nature so as to provide the means for practical solutions.

We hope to raise the people who will fearlessly be governed by their conscience; we will approach our internal problems on the basis of what's right and not who is right and we will not rest until all inhabitants of this Continent have sufficient food, work, shelter and purpose.

If you wish to join in this task, which I believe to be the fulfilling of our country's destiny, plan to attend this conference.

Graeme Hardie.

important thing happening in America."

● "We are here to think things through — what our principles will be and what the ramifications will be for the world."

● "Our modern world is coming closer and closer to a point of no return. A revolution is needed to change men's ideas from bitterness to hope."

## Greater Understanding

Who did they invite to help them to study the problems of the world? Every day they had invited speakers to come and address them, to give the Assembly a greater understanding of what was happening in America and the world.

Senators, Mayors, State Department Officials, Authors, Publishers, Newspaper Editors, are a few of those who came from the United States. All left the conference shaken by the conviction of the delegates and what they expected from their leaders.

For example, Colonel Magnus L. Smith, Military Assistant to the Undersecretary of the Army, spoke on "The Role of the Army in the Atomic and Space Age". Afterwards the question many students wanted to know was, when the soldiers are sent to places like the Congo and Vietnam are they told how to deal with the hate and selfishness that causes the conflict in those countries besides knowing how to use a gun?